

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ROME 09854 262000Z
ACTION EUR-08

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3112
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T ROME 9854

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT IT PARM
SUBJECT: FORLANI ON ITALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO UNSSOD

1. IN MAY 26 MEETING WITH FORLANI I EXPRESSED MY SURPRISE AT INCLUSION OF PCI MEMBER PAJETTA IN ITALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO THE UNSSOD. I REMARKED ON THE PROBABILITY THAT THE PCI WOULD USE THE EPISODE AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE GROWING INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTABILITY OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND BE SEEN BY THE PUBLIC AS AN EXPANSION OF THE PCI ROLE IN THE FORMULATION OF ITALIAN FOREIGN POLICY. FORLANI'S RESPONSE WAS TYPICALLY ELUSIVE. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE U.S. CUSTOMARILY SENT PARLIAMENTARY OBSERVERS TO EVENTS OF THIS KIND. FORLANI ALLEGED THAT ALL EEC COUNTRIES WOULD BE SENDING SUCH OBSERVERS TO THE SSOD. GISCARD HAD INVITED THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY TO TAKE PART BUT MARCHAIS HAD REFUSED. HERE THE REVERSE WAS TRUE. THE PCI HAD PUT ON HEAVY PRESSURE TO BE INCLUDED. ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT HAD PLANNED ON SENDING ONLY THE CHAIRMEN OF THE TWO PARLIAMENTARY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEES, IT WAS FORCED TO ACCOMMODATE THE PCI BY ENLARGING THE DELEGATION TO SIX. STILL THE GOVERNMENT WAS ABLE TO BALANCE THE DELEGATION WHICH INCLUDED EVEN A MEMBER OF THE FAR RIGHT DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE. IT IS IN FACT

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PAGE 02 ROME 09854 262000Z

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PARLIAMENT, AS PERHAPS IT SHOULD BE, THOUGH UNFORTUNATELY IT LACKS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBERAL PARTY, WHICH REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE.

3. COMMENT: FORLANI'S REACTION REINFORCES REPORTS WE HAVE HAD THAT FROM ITS INCEPTION HE DID NOT RAISE AN OBJECTION TO THIS "COMPROMISE." GARDNER

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NNN

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